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2 CROSFIELD AVENUE
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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of	:	
Paul Zappier	:	
Application No. 09/747,010	:	
Filed: December 26, 2000	:	DECISION ON PETITION
Attorney Docket Number: 2087	:	UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b)
Title: AUTOMATED METHOD FOR LOAN	:	
SETTLEMENT	:	

This is a decision on the petition filed November 28, 2005, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b)¹, to revive the above-identified application.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner to the non-final Office action, mailed August 24, 2004, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No response was received, and no extensions of time under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) were requested. Accordingly, the above-identified application became abandoned on November 25, 2004. A notice of abandonment was mailed on March 11, 2005.

Petition fee requirement

The fee for filing a petition to revive an unintentionally abandoned application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b) is set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(m) as being \$1500 for a large entity and \$750 for a small entity. Although the petition indicates that said fee was included with the petition, there is no

¹ A grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) must be accompanied by:

- (1) The reply required to the outstanding Office action or notice, unless previously filed;
- (2) The petition fee as set forth in § 1.17(m);
- (3) A statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to this paragraph was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional, and;
- (4) Any terminal disclaimer (and fee as set forth in § 1.20(d)) required pursuant to paragraph (d) of this section.

record of said fee actually having been received, and the petition does not appear to contain an authorization to charge any deficiency to a Deposit Account.


The payment of the required petition fee is a prerequisite to the filing of a petition to revive under 37 C.F.R. §1.137. Therefore, consideration of the merits of the petition before receipt of the filing fee would be premature. See M.P.E.P. 711.03(c)(III)(B)²

In view of the above, this petition is **DISMISSED**.

Any reply must be submitted within **TWO (2) MONTHS** from the mail date of this decision. Extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) are permitted. The reply should include a cover letter entitled "Renewed Petition Under 37 C.F.R. 1.137(b)". This is not a final agency action within the meaning of 5 U.S.C 704.

The renewed petition should indicate in a prominent manner that the attorney handling this matter is Paul Shanowski, and may be submitted by mail³, hand-delivery⁴, or facsimile⁵.

Telephone inquiries regarding *this decision* should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3225. All other inquiries concerning examination procedures or status of the application should be directed to the Technology Center.


Paul Shanowski
Senior Attorney
Office of Petitions
United States Patent and Trademark Office

² "...[T]he payment of a petition fee to obtain the revival of an abandoned application is a statutory prerequisite to revival of the abandoned application and cannot be waived. In addition, the phrase '[o]n filing' in 35 U.S.C. §41(a)(7) means that the petition fee is required for the filing (and not merely the grant) of a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.137. See H.R. Rep. No. 542, 97th Cong., 2nd Sess. 6 (1082), *reprinted in* 1982 U.S.C.C.A.N. 770 ('[t]he fees set forth in this section are due on filing the petition'). Therefore, the Office...will not reach the merits of any petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.137 lacking the requisite petition fee."

³ Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450.

⁴ Customer Window, Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314.

⁵ 571-273-8300 - please note this is a central facsimile number.